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"Persevere and
Succeed."

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EDITORIAL.

DAIRY EXHIBITIONS, U. S. AND CANADIAN.

All who hold progress of the dairy industry to heart are pleased to hear that the promoters and organizers of the National Dairy Show succeeded in drawing together, at Chicago, this month, a vast and representative exhibition, exponent of the resources, achievements and tremendous importance of dairying on the North American continent. Those lines of animal husbandry which have for their end the making of meat and the production of equine perfection and power, have, of late years, had fitting representation at the International Live-stock Exposition in December, but, until two years ago, the United States dairy industry has had no such exposition. To include it with the December International was impossible, owing to the already behemoth proportions of that institution, hence a separate dairy show became necessary. The first attempt, in 1905, was but moderately successful. This year, profiting by experience, energetic effort succeeded in assembling a display of dairy stock, dairy apparatus and dairy products, which, for extent and representative character of exhibits, easily outclassed any previous attempt at dairy exhibition in America. In fact, the successful exhibition of Canadian Ayrshires by Messrs. Ness and Hunter lent an international aspect.

Attendance from out of town was not large, of course, as compared with State or Provincial autumn shows, but was considered very satisfactory by the management, being officially estimated at 25,000. The city paid admissions fell below expectations, one reason, doubtless, being poor transportation facilities to the Stock-yards. All prize-money was paid in cash October 19th, and exhibitors of machinery and cattle are said to have gone away well pleased. We understand there will be another National Dairy Show held next year, probably in New York, Milwaukee or Chicago.

The success of the second show, and the hearty support it has quite properly received from the American agricultural press, will no doubt revive the agitation for a similar attempt in Canada, for it is freely conceded that a more comprehensive winter dairy exhibition than we now have is desirable. There is, however, no call to imitate the American example. Imitations are generally failures, and in the present case there are special reasons for avoiding the attempt.

In the first place, geography declares that a special dairy exhibition in Canada could not possibly be more than Provincial as to attendance, and largely so as to exhibits. Discretion points to the unwisdom of attempting to make such an exhibition serve a larger sphere than the present winter fairs at Guelph, Ont.; Ottawa, Ont., and Amherst, N. S., respectively. That being the case, there is nothing to be gained and much to be lost by divorcing the dairy features from these shows, which are unique institutions, admittedly superior from the standpoint of practical educational value to either the National Dairy Show or the International Live-stock Exhibition in Chicago. The Canadian Winter Fairs are institutions to be proud of, and capable of large extension and development with advantage to each and all the branches of husbandry they represent. To detract from them would be a species of child's play, to which we trust no Government, Federal or Provincial, will ever become a party. There is need, however, for an extensive development of the dairy feature at all of these, and the first step should be to double or treble the present representation of the dairy interests on the boards

of control. This done, and the anticipated steps taken toward enlarging the housing space at Guelph, it will then be in order for dairy breeders and dairy manufacturers to demonstrate their faith in the feasibility of a winter dairy exhibition by exhibiting more freely than they have felt disposed to do in the past, and they may rest assured that a Department of Agriculture which has already done so much for the dairy industry as that of the Hon. Nelson Monteith during his brief term of office, will gladly meet all reasonable requests for increase of facilities and accommodation.

THE CLOVEN HOOF PROTRUDES.

"Office and Field," a Toronto journal devoted to the interests of insurance, has, ever since the report of the Royal Canadian Life-insurance Commission, been seeking to discredit the recommendations of that body, chiefly by alleging that they savored too strongly of the Armstrong law of New York State. Thus, under the guise of jingoistic patriotism, it has persistently attacked practically every recommendation which was suggested by the Canadian Commission to guard against the evils which had grown up in the American insurance business, and which threatened to develop in the Canadian field. A chief reliance in the programme of insinuation has been the publication of cartoons, which "The Farmer's Advocate," in common, no doubt, with other papers, has been invited to reproduce. At least, all summer long we have been receiving marked copies of newspapers containing one or another of these cartoons, with articles to correspond. The numerous papers which were duped into republishing these cartoons are respectfully referred to the following exultant headlines from the October issue of Office and Field:

"THE CAMPAIGN OF EDUCATION.

"Hearty Co-operation of the General Press.
"About Two Hundred and Twenty-five Canadian
"Newspapers Have Reproduced Our
"Cartoons, Absolutely Without One
"Penny of Payment as Ad-
"vertising."

"Education," indeed! And note the phrase, "Absolutely without one penny of payment as advertising." We trust the publishers which proved "easy" enough to give this free advertising in the interests of "Education" feel properly proud of themselves, but to the general public they will look like thirteen cents. Such a campaign and such a boast indicate plainly the organized effort behind the scenes. The cloven hoof protrudes through the thin veil of patriotic sentiment behind which it would fain conceal itself. But the Canadian public is not so easily deceived.

It is not contended that the Insurance Commission's report is perfect. No doubt it will be modified before being crystallized into Federal law. But ridicule is not argument, and the kind of discussion which bitterly criticises so much, and finds practically nothing to commend, does not strike anyone as animated by a candid spirit. As a matter of fact, we do not believe the best insurance companies find their business very hard hit by the insurance investigation, nor will they, we judge, by any legislation likely to be enacted as a result thereof. Judging from the recent insurance conventions in Toronto, and from interviews we have had with the agents of reputable companies, "Office and Field" does not correctly represent the sentiment of fair and reasonable insurance men, who have no fear of publicity and no object in surrounding their business with a haze of mystery. In the long run, strict Government

supervision, with constant publicity and reasonable safeguards as to investments, will redound to the benefit of reliable companies, and keep the business generally on a safe financial footing.

SCIENCE AND PRACTICE OF ECONOMICAL FEEDING.

In the whole field of agriculture there is probably no study more absorbing or more profitable than that relating to the feeding of domestic animals, yet there are few less perfectly understood by those who should be informed concerning them. This fact, combined with the comparative scarcity and present extravagant values of feedstuffs, render opportune the discussion on stock-feeding which we propose to institute through our columns this winter. For this discussion, the services of expert contributors have been enlisted to supplement editorial effort, and, in addition, correspondence is invited from practical men in all branches of live-stock husbandry, from poultry-keeping to dairying and horse-raising. Theoretical dissertations are not desired, but inquiries and articles based on practical experience in economical feeding are always in order.

To many farmers, articles on the science of feeding, embracing such terms as "balanced rations," "protein," and "carbohydrates," seem hopelessly technical and complex; yet, when one comes to read up a little, he is surprised to find how few formidable terms there are, and how easy these few are to understand. It is true the feeding of animals is a complex study—more complex than some laboratory chemists and classroom professors have realized. It must be complex, because it has to do with the wonderful phenomena of life and natural law. There is far more in feeding than ever was learned in a laboratory, although the chemist has been of immense assistance in working out the science of feeding; and when we find a man who combines knowledge of animal chemistry with practical experience as a stockman, we have the makings of the genuine feeding expert.

Without attempting, in this limited space, to enumerate all the important factors of animal nutrition, it may be pointed out that the first thing a beginner has to take in is the fact that there are four distinct elements which should be present in approximately definite proportions in all classes of feeds. These are (1) protein, (2) carbohydrates, (3) ether extract (consisting of various vegetable fats and oils), and (4) ash or mineral matter. Each of these has its own particular function to fill in the animal economy. Protein the most important element of all, and the one deficient in most kinds of ordinary farm roughage, is chiefly concerned in the production of muscle, skin, horn, and the vital fluids of the body. It is especially demanded by young, growing animals, and by cows yielding milk. Carbohydrates (sugars, starches, cellulose and the like) are employed in producing animal fat and heat, and ether extract is devoted to similar purposes. Ether extract has more than twice the heat-yielding capacity of carbohydrates, hence it is customary, in estimating the heat and fat producing value of a food, to group the carbohydrates and ether extract together, multiplying the pounds of ether extract by 2.3, adding the product to the pounds of carbohydrates, and expressing the sum in terms of carbohydrates. When the proportion of protein to carbohydrates and fat in a daily ration is in the relation which experiment has determined to be the best for any specific purpose, it is called a "balanced ration." In considering the "balance" of a ration, the amount of ash is not taken into consideration, as there is usually